

3/pds

Description

MOLDED PRODUCT PREPARED FROM SOLIDIFIED REFUSE

FUEL AND MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF

5 Technical Field

This invention concerns a molded product prepared from a so-called RDF (Refuse Derived Fuel) which is a solid fuel obtained by pulverizing, drying and molding refuses, as well as a manufacturing method thereof.

10 Further, it particularly concerns an environmental cleaning material using the molded product.

Background Art

In recent years, refuse disposing and utilizing
15 technique of selecting and collecting combustible refuses from industrial wastes, so-called refuses and then pulverizing, drying and molding the refuses into solid fuels have been developed variously. Such technique can include, for example, Japanese Patent No. 2865541 and
20 2981399, as well as Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 86569/1996.

That is, after pulverizing refuses such as municipal refuses, domestic refuses, industrial wastes and general wastes, they are dried for reducing the water content in
25 the refuses and, by way of a selecting operation of

removing metals, glass and potteries, molded to a predetermined shape, for example, a crayon shape to obtain solid fuels. Such solidified refuse fuels are referred to as RDF.

5 The solidified refuse fuels have been utilized as heat sources for cooling and heating use in various facilities and as fuels for electric power generation. However, for utilization, they require installation investment such as for new construction of facilities
10 suitable to solidified refuse fuels and modification of existent facilities. On the other hand, the amount of refuses formed daily has increased more and more and it has been demanded to increase the solidified refuse fuels correspondingly with a view point of environmental
15 preservation.

 However, no sufficient facilities have yet been provided at present for the utilization of the solidified refuse fuels and mere increase in the production of the solidified refuse fuels has no usefulness.

20 In view of the above, this invention intends to newly develop a stage for effectively utilizing solidified refuse fuels and promote consumption thereof. Particularly, it proposes a utilization method thereof in view of environmental preservation.

25 The present inventors, as a result of searching a

method of utilizing solidified refuse fuels in the form that they can contribute to environmental preservation, have reached an idea of using them as cleaning materials for polluted environment. Particularly, water resources
 5 such as ponds, lakes, rivers and seas have been contaminated year by year by intrusion of industrial waste water, living waste water and the like, which brings about serious social problems, so that new development of foul water disposal technique has keenly been demanded and it
 10 has been recognized that utilization of them as the material for cleaning foul water is useful.

Further, since carbonaceous materials such as char are highly biophilic and form biofilms on the surface thereof, they have a foul water cleaning function and have
 15 now been started to be used for cleaning of waste water from golf links or municipal sewage (referred to each of Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 56754/1977 and Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 295578/1996). In view of the background described above, the present inventors have
 20 made an earnest study on the method capable of utilizing solidified refuse fuels resulted from environmental preservation type refuse disposal further to the cleaning of environment and have accomplished the invention.

25 Disclosure of the Invention

That is, this invention provides a molded product comprising a carbonaceous material having a carbon content of 30 to 70 mass% obtained by dry distillation of solidified refuse fuels and a binder.

5 The molded product preferably contains from 5 to 90 mass% of the binder and the binder used in this case is further preferably, at least one material selected from the group consisting of cement, gypsum, clay and soil hardening agent.

10 Further, in this invention, any of the molded products described above is preferably further mixed with at least one material selected from the group consisting of iron and iron compounds in which the iron compound to be mixed is, more preferably, at least one material
15 selected from the group consisting of iron oxides, iron hydroxides, iron ores and iron sands.

Any of the molded products described above preferably has a bulk specific gravity of 1.2 to 2.0.

Further, any of the molded products described above
20 preferably has a particle diameter of 0.5 to 50.0 mm.

Among all, this invention also provides an environment cleaning material using any of the molded products described above as the embodiments of this invention.

25 Further, this invention also includes a method of

manufacturing a molded product comprising dry distilling solidified refuse fuels to obtain a carbonaceous material having 30 to 70 mass% of carbon content, mixing a binder with the carbonaceous material, molding and then drying the same. In the manufacturing method, a method of mixing at least one material selected from the group consisting of iron and iron compounds is preferred, and a manufacturing method of using the carbonaceous material after washing with water is more preferred.

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Brief Explanation of the Drawings

Fig. 1 is a view showing an example of a facility for manufacturing a carbonaceous material used in this invention.

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Fig. 2 is a view showing another example of a facility for manufacturing a carbonaceous material used in this invention.

Fig. 3 is a view illustrating steps of manufacturing a molded product and an environment cleaning material from carbonaceous material

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Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention

This invention is to be explained specifically.

It has been found according to this invention that the solidified refuse fuels can function as a cleaning

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material for foul water by using a carbonaceous material
 and further providing an appropriate shape or controlling
 the specific gravity. Accordingly, the molded product and
 the environment cleaning material using the same according
 5 to this invention are started from so-called RDF, that is,
 solidified refuse fuels processed into a predetermined
 shape by way of pulverization, drying and molding of
 refuses.

That is, this invention provides a molded product
 10 comprising a carbonaceous material having 30 to 70 mass%
 of carbon content obtained by dry distillation of the
 solidified refuse fuels and the binder or an environmental
 cleaning material using the same.

For the carbonaceous material constituting the
 15 molded product in this invention, those having a carbon
 content of 30 to 70 mass% are used. That is, in a case of
 using this molded product as the environment cleaning
 material, the cleaning function can be ensured
 sufficiently when the carbon content of the carbonaceous
 20 material is 30 mass% or more. On the other hand, when the
 carbon content is 70 mass% or less, it forms a
 carbonaceous material with less volatile components, so
 that there is no worry of causing water pollution by
 leaching of oil components in water upon use of the molded
 25 product as the environment cleaning material. The carbon

content of the molded product of this invention is preferably 30 to 60 mass% and, further preferably, 40 to 60 mass%. Accordingly, when the solidified refuse fuels are dry distilled, dry distilling conditions are selected such that a carbonaceous material having a carbon content of 30 to 70 mass% is obtained.

Usually, carbonaceous materials obtained by such dry distillation are often in the form of a powder having a particle diameter of about 0.05 to 5.0 mm. There is no particular restriction on the particle diameter of the carbonaceous material in this invention. However, depending on the shape, they can naturally be used by being formed into usual particle diameters by pulverization or the like.

Now, when solidified refuse fuels comprising refuses such as municipal refuses, domestic refuses, industrial wastes and general wastes are dry distilled, a carbonaceous powder having typical ingredient composition, for example, shown in Table 1 can be obtained. Since the carbonaceous material is highly biophilic and forms biofilms on the surface, it is effective to cleaning of foul water. However, when it is used in the form of the powder as it is, it does not settle in a foul water area but is carried away, making it difficult to play a role thereof. In view of the above, it is necessary to provide

the carbonaceous material with a certain size and a shape by mixing a binder in order that the material stays in the foul water area and forms biofilms on the surface to contribute to cleaning. Further, it is also necessary to provide a desired specific gravity. Accordingly, the molded product of this invention contains a binder.

The content of the binder in the molded product of this invention is preferably 5 to 90 mass%. This is because a shape with a sufficient strength can be maintained after mixing the binder with the carbonaceous material and molding them, when the content of the binder is 5 mass% or more. On the other hand, the cleaning function can be developed easily when the binder content is 90 mass% or less and, accordingly, the content of the carbon material is at least 10 mass% or more. A more preferred binder content is 10 to 30 mass%.

The binder has a function of joining the carbonaceous materials to each other and those of a type that can attain joining by filling gaps between each of the materials are preferred. That is, when the binder of this type is used, aggregates of the carbonaceous material joined by way of the binder, that is, the molded product becomes porous and the porosity is increased, so that the exposed area is increased. Accordingly, when such a molded product is used as the environment cleaning

described above or the environment cleaning material using the same as the starting material is preferably mixed with at least one material selected from the group consisting of iron and iron compounds (hereinafter sometimes referred to as an iron source). In this case, the iron compound to be mixed is further preferably at least one material selected from the group consisting of iron oxides, iron hydroxides, iron ores and iron sands.

The iron source is used suitably for the control of specific gravity or as an iron ion source in the molded product molded by way of the binder and the environment cleaning material. That is, the molded product and the environment cleaning material is used mainly being scattered in a polluted area. When the polluted area is present in sea or river, it suffers from the effect of ebb tide and high tide at the seashore and water stream in the river. In such a case, the scattered molded product or the environment cleaning material is localized and, as a result, the function thereof may sometimes not prevail over the entire pollution area. It is preferred to control the specific gravity such that the molded product or the environment cleaning material does not localize after scattering. For the control of the specific gravity, it is important that the molded product and the environment cleaning material has a specific gravity in

accordance with the working circumstance. For example, in a case of scattering on the seashore, when the specific gravity is conditioned substantially identical with that of sands on the seashore, localization can be prevented since they show the identical behavior with that of sands. Accordingly, it is extremely advantageous to vary the mixing amount of the iron source to control the specific gravity in accordance with the scattering circumstance of the molded product or the environment cleaning material.

10 By the control of the specific gravity, the function of the molded product or the environment cleaning material prevails generally over a desired range. In view of the application use described above, the bulk specific gravity of the molded product or the environment cleaning material using the same of this invention is preferably 1.2 to 2.0, more preferably, 1.4 to 1.7 irrespective of the use of the iron source. Since the molded product of this invention or the environment cleaning material using the same is advantageous for the cleaning of environment in a case

20 where it is porous, the specific gravity is defined by the bulk specific gravity.

The iron source in the molded product or the environment cleaning material has a role as a specific gravity controller for approximating the specific gravity

25 to that of precipitates or deposits in the sea area (water

area) to be cleaned. Then, with respect to the content of the iron source, it is desirable to add the same so as to contain 10 mass% or more of the carbonaceous material from the standpoint of securing the cleaning action.

5 Accordingly, it is preferred for such a form of use that contains less than 70 mass% of the carbonaceous material upon mixing the material and the iron source. Further, since the iron source creates an environment suitable to growing of algae and inhabitation of micro livings by the effect of iron ions leached from the source, it develops
10 an excellent function for the environment cleaning in cooperation with the effect of the carbonaceous material. Further, as the iron source, collected dusts in iron making factories or steel making factories, pulverized
15 powder of iron ores or iron powder and iron sand used for powder metallurgy can be used. Since any of them has a higher specific gravity, it is suitable to the specific gravity control material. Further, since this is inexpensive, it is a material suitable to combination with
20 an inexpensive carbonaceous material from the refuse as the starting material.

Further, since iron scraps have already been used actually as fish reefs and the iron content is an element abundant in the natural world, the iron source has no
25 worry of worsening the environment even with it is

incorporated in the molded product and the environment cleaning material.

Thus, since the molded product molded by mixing the binder and, optionally, the iron source to the
 5 carbonaceous material and the environment cleaning material have a necessary mass, particularly, a specific gravity to settle upon charge into the foul water area, they can be retained in the foul water area. Further, since the molded product and the environment cleaning
 10 material have a structure in which the carbonaceous material and the iron source are deposited on the periphery of the binder component, biofilms are formed to the carbonaceous material and, as a result, micro bacterial cleaning is conducted therein. Further, an
 15 effect similar with that of the activated carbon that directly adsorbs polluting ingredients to the carbonaceous material can also be expected.

Further in this invention, the molded product and the environment cleaning material in any of the
 20 embodiments described above have no particular restriction in view of the shape and may take appropriate shape in accordance with the working circumstance. However, in view of cleaning in the water quality environment described above, it is preferably in a granular form with
 25 a particle diameter of 0.5 to 50.0 mm. This is because

there is less worry of water pollution and flushing loss due to water stream when the particle diameter is 0.5 mm or more. On the other hand, the specific surface area is not decreased and the cleaning function is not
 5 deteriorated when the particle diameter is 50.0 mm or less. More preferably, it is within a range from 1.0 to 30.0 mm. It is advantageous for avoiding water pollution and flushing loss with water stream, to select the particle diameter within the range described above, to control the
 10 particle diameter within the predetermined range to 90% or more based on the entire granular material, or to sieve the resultant granular material and exclude those out of the range, during the molding by granulation.

As exemplified in Table 1, for the ingredients of
 15 the carbonaceous material obtained by dry distillation of solidified refuse fuels, since chlorine derived from refuses is inevitably contained in the carbonaceous material obtained from general refuses, the molded product manufactured from the carbonaceous material and the
 20 environment cleaning material is optimally used for pollution of sea. However, it is also possible to apply the molded product and the environment cleaning material to pollution of fresh water when dechlorination to be described later is applied. Further, it provides a great
 25 advantage in view of application that the molded product

and the environment cleaning material can be applied only by scattering them into necessary sea area or water area.

Furthermore, since the molded product and the environment cleaning material according to this invention
5 have an adsorbing effect due to carbon to pollutants, as well as contain C, Ca and K as plant nutrient elements, they can be used also as a soil improver as shown in Fig. 1. That is, when the molded product and the environment cleaning material are scattered on soils, since bacteria
10 grow in the pores of the carbonaceous material, the soil can be activated. In the case of using them as the soil improver as described above, it is advantageous to use the molded product and the environment cleaning material at a diameter of 30.0 mm or less.

15 Further, this patent application also provides an invention concerning a method of manufacturing a molded product which comprises dry distilling solidified refuse fuels to obtain a carbonaceous material having a carbon content of 30 to 70 mass%, molding the carbonaceous
20 material in admixture with a binder and then drying them.

In the manufacturing method, a method of further mixing at least one material selected from the group consisting of iron and iron compounds (hereinafter sometimes referred to as an iron source) upon mixing the
25 binder is preferred and a manufacturing method of using

A method of manufacturing a molded product according to this invention is to be explained specifically with referring to drawings.

At first, Fig. 1 illustrates an example of a production facility for manufacturing the carbonaceous material from refuses by way of solidified refuse fuels. In Fig. 1, production of solidified refuse fuels is shown by a step chart A and a succeeding dry distillation processing of solidified refuse fuels is shown by a schematic view.

In Fig. 1, are shown pulverizers 1 and 6, a drier 2, a molding machine 3, a separator 4 for foreign matters from refuses, magnetic selectors 5a and 5b, a dry distillation furnace 10, a dry distillation gas combustion device 11, a boiler 12, water pipe bundles 12a and 12b, heat exchangers 13a and 13b, a solidified refuse fuel storage hopper 14, a constant amount feeding device 15 of solidified refuse fuels such as a screw feeder, a storage hopper 16 for carbonaceous material after dry distillation, an after burner 17, a combustion air blower 18, a combustion air feed pipeline 19, a combustion air feed header 19a, a steam feed pipeline 20 to the drier 2, a combustion gas quenching device 21, a package boiler 22, a

pure oxygen/oxygen enriched air feed pipeline 23, a stack
24, a combustion gas feed pipeline 25 for the drier 2, a
flow rate control valve CV, refuse transportation
direction f_1 , solidified refuse fuel transportation
5 direction f_2 and carbonaceous material discharging
direction f_3 .

A heating furnace such as an internal combustion
turning type kiln is preferably used for the dry
distillation furnace 10 but there is no particular
10 restriction on the type of the dry distillation furnace 10.
Further, for the heat exchanging means 13a between steams
generated in the boiler 12 and refuses in the refuse drier
2, an indirect heat exchanger between the steams and the
refuses is disposed preferably disposed in view of
15 prevention of oxidation of the refuses but there is no
particular restriction on the means so long as it can
prevent oxidation of the refuses.

Now, in the production facility shown in Fig. 1,
metal, glass and pottery wastes are removed by the foreign
20 matter separator 4 and the magnetic selector 5a from
general refuses such as municipal refuses and domestic
refuses, industrial wastes, general wastes and refuses
from shredder dusts obtained by pulverization of domestic
electric products and automobile parts. Subsequently,
25 obtained refuses mainly comprising combustible matters are

pulverized by the pulverizer 1 and dried by the steams from the boiler 12 as a heat source.

Then, after pulverizing the refuses again after drying, they are optionally removed with metals by the magnetic selector 5b and molded in the molding machine 3 to produce solidified refuse fuels. The solidified refuse fuels are supplied by way of the storage hopper 14 and the constant amount feed device 15 to the distillation furnace 10.

In the dry distillation furnace 10, the solidified refuse fuels are dry distilled. In this case, when dry distillation is applied while maintaining the oxygen concentration in the furnace at 1 vol% or less, a carbonaceous material having a carbon content of 30 to 70 mass% according to this invention can be obtained. Since volatile ingredients in the solidified refuse fuels are released by the dry distillation treatment, the carbonaceous material becomes porous. Further, for restricting the concentration of dioxine generated from the carbonaceous material to a predetermined value or less, the process is conducted preferably, for example, by controlling the oxygen concentration in the furnace to 1 vol% or less by the adjustment of the amount of air fed to the furnace and controlling the dry distillation temperature to 600°C or higher, preferably, 800°C or higher.

the refuses through the heat exchanging means 13a.

In a case where the solidified refuse fuel production facility is operated not continuously but batchwise (intermittent system), steams can not be
 5 obtained at the start of the operation. Accordingly, steams from the package boiler 22 are used in this case for drying the refuses upon start of the operation. The package boiler 22 can generate steams in a short time due to kerosene combustion or heavy oil combustion. Then,
 10 drying of the refuses is started by the steams from the package boiler 22. Subsequently, when stationary generation of steams from the boiler 11 by generation of the dry distillation gas in the dry distillation furnace 10 is confirmed, the package boiler 22 is stopped.

15 Further, as shown in Fig. 1, the refuses may be dried also by feeding the combustion gas generated from the high temperature combustion of the dry distillation gas through the combustion gas feed pipeline 30 to the drier 2, and conducting heat exchange relative to the
 20 refuses by way of the heat exchanging means 13b.

Further, as shown in Fig. 2, it is also possible to produce solidified refuse fuels by pulverizing the refuses by the pulverizer 1, molding them in the molding machine 3 and then drying them in the drier 2.

25 In the production facility of Fig. 1 or Fig. 2

described above, the pure oxygen/oxygen enriched air feed pipeline 23 is preferably disposed to the dry distillation gas combustion gas 11 for blowing pure oxygen and/or oxygen enriched air and pure oxygen and/or oxygen enriched air at the oxygen concentration exceeding 21 vol% is mixed with the combustion air. This is because blowing of pure oxygen and/or oxygen enriched air to the dry distillation gas combustion device enables to attain combustion at a further higher temperature in the dry distillation gas combustion device 11 to suppress formation of dioxins more easily.

The carbonaceous material produced in accordance with the foregoing procedures is optionally applied with a water washing treatment and then transported to the succeeding step. The transported carbon materials is mixed with the binder and, if necessary, further with the iron source. The molded product or the environment purifying material using the same according to this invention preferably has a specific gravity conforming the working circumstance and the iron source is used suitably to the control of the specific gravity. That is, as shown in Fig. 3, a carbonaceous material 30, a binder (for example, cement) 31a and, if necessary, an iron source (for example, iron sand) 31b are delivered each in a predetermined amount to a stirring vessel 32. In the

stirring vessel 32, the content is further mixed with addition of water and the mixture is fed to a molding machine (for example, pelletizer) 33. They are molded into a predetermined diameter in the molding machine 33, 5 dried to solidness by heating on the conveyor 34 and then stored in a hopper 35. Then, they are delivered, for example, on a conveyor truck 36 and then shipped.

In the example shown in Fig. 3, a disk type pelletizer is illustrated as an example of the molding 10 machine 33 but a vibrational granulator or like other usual pelletizer or molding machine may also be used.

Further, in a case where chlorine derived from refuses is not favorable as the molded product and the environment cleaning material, chlorine may be removed 15 further from the molded product and the environmental cleaning material. That is, since the chlorine source contained in the carbonaceous material is NaCl, chlorine can be removed simply by applying a water washing treatment to the carbonaceous material before mixing with 20 the binder as described above. Since water used for the water washing treatment contains NaCl, it is desirably discharged into sea after removing SS (suspended solids) or COD (chemical oxygen demand).

Molded products were produced in the production steps shown in Fig. 1 and Fig. 3 under the following conditions. Cement was used as the binder and Table 2 shows the result of investigation for the nature and the composition of the thus obtained molded product. Then, Table 3 shows the result of an investigation test of using the molded product as it is as the environment cleaning material and investigating the result of a leaching test for various environments.

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[Dry Distillation Step]

Oxygen concentration in furnace: 1 vol% or less

Temperature of carbonaceous material: 600°C

15 [Binder Mixing Step]

30 mass% of cement and 20 mass% of water were added to the carbonaceous material (100 mass%) and mixed and pelleted.

20 A molded product with 23 mass% of binder content was obtained.

As a result of conducting an exposure test to sea water on the purifying performance of the molded product, as shown in Fig. 4, growing of algae was better and deposition of shellfishes was favorable compared with usual algae growing concretes. That is, growth of animals

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Further, when the same material as the carbonaceous material used for preparation of the molded product is mixed with cement as a binder, iron sand was mixed as the iron source and a high specific gravity molded product was also prepared under the following binder mixing condition. The specific gravity was controlled to a bulk specific gravity of 1.4 to 1.6 conforming the average bulk specific gravity of sands on coastal lines of 1.4 to 1.6 (true specific gravity 2.4 - 2.6). Table 5 shows the nature and the composition of the obtained molded product. The thus obtained molded product of an average particle diameter of 5 mm was served as it was as the environmental cleaning material for the scattering test on the sea shore. After lapse of 3 months, when localization of the environment cleaning material in the area scattered with the environment cleaning material was investigated, scarce change was observed for the flushing loss due to waves or in the mixing amount in deposits.

[Binder Mixing Step : Molded Product at High Specific Gravity]

30 mass% of cement and 20 mass% of water were added
25 to a mixture of 57 mass% of carbonaceous material and 43

mass% of iron sand and mixed and pelleted.

A molded product with a binder content of 23 mass% was obtained.

5 Table 1

C	SiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	CaO	MgO	S	Na+K	Zn	Cl	Others
52.6	15.2	8.7	9.4	1.3	0.17	2.75	0.11	2.77	7.0

Table 2

		Solid refuse fuel	Carbonaceous powder	Environment cleaning material
Bulk specific gravity (g/cm ³)		0.59	0.45	1.2
Water content (%)		3.5	5.3	10.5
Ash (%)		10.3	39.8	20.0
Combustible component (%)		85.2	54.9	22.0
Volatile component (%)		75.6	12.5	6.0
Compositional ingredient	C (mass%)	50.5	45.2	22.0
	H (mass%)	7.8	1.1	0.1
	N (mass%)	0.8	1.0	0.5
	S (mass%)	0.11	0.096	0.005

Table 3

	Measured item	Measured value	Standard 1 (*)	Standard 2 (*)	Standard 3 (*)
Deleterious material	Total mercury (mg/l)	<0.0001	0.005	0.005	0.0005
	Cadmium (mg/l)	<0.01	0.1	0.03	0.01
	Lead (mg/l)	<0.01	0.1	0.2	0.01
Living environment item	Zinc (mg/l)	0.04	5.0	-	-
	Phosphorus (mg/l)	0.41	8.0	-	-
	Chromium (mg/l)	<0.01	2.0	-	-
	Copper (mg/l)	<0.01	3.0	-	-

(*) Standard 1: Effluent standard value according to Water Pollution Control Law

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Standard 2: Land fill standard value according to Water Pollution Control Law

Standard 3: Soil contamination environment standard value according to Water Pollution Control Law

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Table 4

	Product only composed of concrete (Comparative example)	Environment cleaning material (Example of the invention)
Amount of algae formed on unit weight (index)	1	3 - 4
Deposition rate of shellfishes per unit weight (index)	1	3 - 4

Table 5

		Environment cleaning material
Bulk specific gravity (g/cm ³)		1.45
Water content (%)		8.5
Ash (%)		26.0
Combustible component (%)		15.0
Volatile component (%)		4.5
Compositional ingredient	C (mass%)	18.5
	H (mass%)	0.07
	N (mass%)	0.4
	S (mass%)	0.005

5 Industrial Applicability

According to this invention, since solidified refuse fuels are formed into a molded product which is utilized, for example, as an environment cleaning material, it is possible to promote consumption of solidified refuse fuels to promote environment preserving refuse disposal and also improve the environment.